

# **The Covenant Renewal Service**

---

## **Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church**

9124 Sappington Road, St. Louis, MO 63126  
(314) 843-7994 [www.providencestlouis.com](http://www.providencestlouis.com)



## **The Second Sunday in Advent**

*December 6, 2009*

# Welcome

If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the black registration folder at the end of the pew and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use it for personal contact with you and your family. Please join us downstairs for coffee after the service.

We have **Christian education** classes for all ages which meet after the service at 10:50 AM. Please take the time to sign our guestbook in the foyer before you leave today. We invite you to return to our evening service at 6 PM and fellowship in a more informal setting.

If you are unfamiliar with **our form of worship**, please feel free to speak with one of the Pastors or Elders. We have resources that will help you understand the biblical rationale for why we worship the way we do. Visit our website for articles, essays, and other helpful information on our worship and life at Providence: [www.providencestl.com](http://www.providencestl.com).

The **Lord's Supper** is observed every Sunday as the climax of covenant renewal worship. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God as an active member of a congregation in which the Gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the elders or the pastor before or after the service. **Note:** The middle circle of cups in each tray contains grape juice, the larger outer ring contains wine. (The grape juice has a darker color than the wine.)



The traditional monograms **IC** and **XC** are ancient Latin abbreviations for **Jesus** (*IHCOCYC*, a Latinized form of his Greek name) and **Christ** (*XRICTOC*). **NIKA** means Victor or Conqueror. Jesus Christ was born to conquer sin, death, and the Devil. The cross in the center of the world reminds us that Jesus has conquered by means of his suffering, death, and resurrection. Jesus now reigns *because* he died for us.

Today our Pulpit and Table paraments are purple. Violet or purple is the royal color. During Advent season we pray for and reflect upon the ways in which Christ our King comes to serve us.

# The Morning Service

---

The Lord's Day — December 6, 2009

*The Second Sunday in Advent*

**Preparation For Worship: Revelation 21:16-17**

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

---

## The Entrance

Silent Preparation

Call to Worship: *Revelation 21:16-17*

*Pastor Chris Smith*

†Hymn #145 "Come, thou long expected Jesus" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

Congregation: **Amen!**

*Matthew 28:19*

The Lord be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

**And also with you!**

A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,

**Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!** *Isa. 40:3*

According to his promise, we wait for a new heavens  
and a new earth,

**In which righteousness dwells!**

*2 Peter 3:13*

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

**Merciful God, our heavenly Father, you sent your messengers  
the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our  
salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our  
sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our  
Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
age after age. Amen!**

## Purification

†Pastor: Let us humbly bow our heads before the Lord and confess our  
sins.

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;

*Psalms 131:1-2*

**My eyes are not raised too high.**

I do not occupy myself with things,

**Too great and too marvelous for me.**

But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
Like a weaned child with its mother.

Let us pray.

O Almighty God, heavenly Father, I have sinned against you and against my neighbor, in thought, word and deed, in the evil I have done and in the good I have not done, through ignorance, through weakness, and through my own deliberate fault. I am truly sorry and repent of all my sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for me, forgive me all that is past; and grant that I may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name.

†Pastor: Now lift up your heads and hear the good news . . . !

## Ascension

†Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

†Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**It is proper and right to do so.**

†Truly it is fitting and our greatest joy to give thanks to you at all times and in every place, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. For you have proven your faithfulness in fulfilling the promise of the birth and ministry of Jesus, and because of this we anticipate the completion of your plan for us and your world in the future. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing . . .

†The Sanctus

*with vigor*  
*ff* Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts! Hea-ven and earth are  
full of Your glo - ry! Ho - san - na in the High - est! Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

*The Appointed Readings for The Second Sunday in Advent*

The Old Testament Reading: *Malachi 3:1-5*

This is the Word of the Lord!

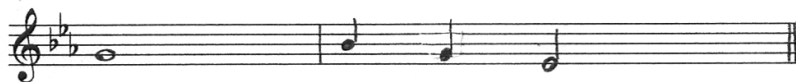
**Thanks be to God!**

The Epistle Reading: *Philippians 1:1-11*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The Magnificat: *Luke 1:46-55*



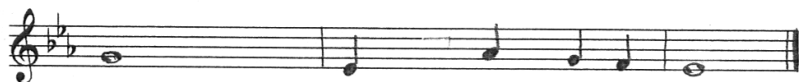
1 My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
2 For be - hold from henceforth  
3 He hath shewed strength with his arm;  
4 He hath filled the hungry with good things;  
5 Glory be to the Father:



1 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
2 All generations shall call me blessed.  
3 He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
4 And the rich he hath sent empty away.  
5 And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;



1 For he hath regarded  
2 For he that is mighty hath done to me great things;  
2b And his mercy is on them that fear him  
3 He hath put down the mighty from their seats,  
4 He hath holpen his servant Is-ra-el, in remembrance of his mercy;  
5 As it was in the beginning,



1 The low estate of his handmaiden.  
2 And ho - ly is his Name. (to 2b)  
2b From generation to generation.  
3 And exalted them of low degree.  
4 As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.  
5 Is now and ever shall be, world without end. A - men.

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 19:11-27*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

†We Confess our Faith: *The Nicene Creed*

**I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds: God of God, Light of**

Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made;  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made:  
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father.  
And he shall come again with glory  
to judge both the living and the dead  
whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and  
glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to  
come. Amen!

†The *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world with-  
out end. Amen!**

Sermon Text: *Luke 19:11-27*

Sermon: **RISKING IT ALL ON THE KINGDOM** Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers  
**LIX. AN EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE**

†Hymn “Awake, awake and strengthen” (to tune of #178)

Awake, awake and strengthen  
The things about to die,  
The works yet unperfected,  
Before the Lord draws nigh.  
But if thou be not watchful,  
If thou dost not repent,  
The Lord shall come upon thee  
When thou dost least expect.

Text: Adapted from Rev. 3:1-6 by Bill Hoover © 1999 Music: Hans Leo Hassler, 1601 Harm. J. S. Bach, 1729
---

For him that overcometh,  
This glorious state shall be:  
His garments all resplendent  
In whitest purity,  
His name inscribed forever  
Within the Book of Life,  
Confessed before the Father  
And holy angels bright.

But, lo! thou hast a remnant  
With garments yet unstained,  
Who, undefiled, have labored  
And faithful have remained.  
They flee from all temptation,  
They triumph in the fight;  
The Lord hath found them worthy,  
And they shall walk in white.

# The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory “Rejoice, beloved Christians”

Rejoice, beloved Christians,  
Rejoice with jub’lant hearts,  
For man was born the Savior,  
Forgiveness He imparts.  
Rejoice with all the angels,  
Glad hymns and carols sing.  
To Christ your praises voicing,  
Hail Him the Lord and King.

Then celebrate with gladness  
That Christ came down to earth.  
It was the Father’s pleasure  
To give mankind rebirth.  
New life in Him receiving,  
Life full and free, redeemed.  
Rejoice, beloved Christians,  
Hail Him your Savior King.

Text: Donald O. Rotermund (tr. v.1, auth. v.2) Copyright © 1976 Concordia Publishing House. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net License #A-710580. Music: Johannes Eccard (1533-1611), ed. D. O. Rotermund
---

†[HANDS RAISED] The *Doxology*  
†[HANDS RAISED] The Lord’s Prayer

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

## Commissioning Our Church Plant

An Exhortation from Pastor Chris Smith  
Introducing Resurrection Presbyterian Church  
The Congregation Comissions RPC - Laying on Hands & Prayer  
The Declaration by Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

## The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial  
Hymn #499 “Children of the heav’nly King” (Tune of #165) *Trinity Hymnal*  
†The Song of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*): Luke 2:30-32

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy Word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou has prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gen-**

tiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

†Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Congregation: **And his mercy endures forever!**

Pastoral Prayer: Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Congregation: **Amen!**

## **Benediction**

†Hymn #488 "Lead on, O King Eternal" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen

†Greet One Another!

Welcome to Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, especially those who are visiting with us for the first time today. Please fill out the visitor's registration before the service begins. Join us this evening at 6 PM for fellowship, singing, prayer, and a Scripture lesson.

## **The Evening Service**

*The Second Sunday in Advent*

December 6, 2009

Scripture Reading: *Psalm 95*

†Psalm 96 "The LORD be praised"

Hymn Sing & Prayer Requests

†The Beatitudes

Scripture Reading: *Jude 8-24*

Sermon: **WATCH & WAIT**

†Hymn #239 (*Psalm 50:1-6*) "The mighty God"

†Postlude

Pastor Jeff Meyers

*Anglo-Genevan Psalter*

(see handout)

Pastor Tim LeCroy

*Trinity Hymnal*

# TODAY AT PROVIDENCE

---

*Nursery Volunteers, Thank You!*

**Today's Volunteers:**

Morning Service – Schmidt, Boeve

Sunday School – Shields, Horne, Wamsley

Evening Service – Montgomery

**Next Sunday's Volunteers:**

Morning Service – Svezia, Tageson, Schmitt

Sunday School – Greeno, Pratt, Boeve

Evening Service – Weston

**Reception for the Smiths** - Today is the last Sunday that Pastor Chris Smith and the members of his church planting team will be worshipping with us. During the Sunday school hour, join us downstairs for a reception for the Smiths and the families leaving to plant Resurrection Church. NOTE: Parents, please see that your children still arrive to their Lessons and Carols rehearsal on time today.

**Deacons' Fund** - Tonight the deacons will be taking up a collection for the Deacons' Fund. Please consider donating to this good ministry. 100% of your donation goes directly to families within our church family who are struggling financially. Feel free to use the enclosed envelope to place in this morning's offering plate.

**Church Plant Shower** - Today is the LAST DAY to nail your note to the door. There are still notes and envelopes available. If you would like to support the church plant financially, please put "church plant" in the memo and drop it in the offering plate or in the box near the door in the Narthex. Members of the WIC board will be available for assistance.

## Church Calendar

*Tuesdays*

Men's Bible Study

*Fridays*

High School Guys' Bible Study

December 6

Deacons' Fund Collection

December 7

WIC Christmas Party

December 13

Memory Listening During Sunday School

December 20

Lessons and Carols

**Church Calendar** – If you would like to plan a church event within or outside of the church building (or even to use the church building for non-PRPC events) please check with Melanie Carter or Paul Jaeggi to ensure that the calendar is available. The calendar on Paul's desk may not reflect all the recent updates.

# Announcements

**The Annual Ladies' Christmas Party** will be held at Brookie Moore's home (695 Hawbrook Avenue in Kirkwood) tomorrow at 7 PM. Bring a wrapped White Elephant gift and either a dessert or appetizer. (Teens who participated in the Secret Sisters should bring the final gift. For those who didn't participate bring a wrapped gift too.) In addition, WIC gift giving this year will include purchases for the kitchen and nursery. Sign up sheets are located on the WIC table in the foyer. Baskets will be available to leave the unwrapped items. On each gift list are ways to give of your time and labor too. Contact Joanie Harris if you have questions 636-394-6896.

**Nominations for Elder and Deacon** - The Session will receive from the members of Providence nominations for the office of Elder and Deacon during the month of December. If you would like to nominate someone, please use the form available on the table in the foyer or simply email one of the pastors or ruling elders. Some active Deacons have served two consecutive terms (6 years) and are required to take a sabbatical year beginning May 2006. These include Deacons Bryan Carter, Tim Werkema, and Allan Wamsley. If you have any questions, please ask one of the pastors or elders.

**Nursery Volunteers** - It's time to sign up to serve in the nursery. The sign up sheet is on the WIC table in the Narthex. We ask that each family sign up to serve three times per quarter, once during morning worship, once during Sunday school and once during evening worship. Please remember that we require two adults in the nursery at all times. If your child will be assisting you in the nursery, he/she needs to be 15 years old or older. Any questions, see Kathy Pratt or Anne Hiers.

**Lessons and Carols** - Our special Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 20th at 6 PM. During this service, a collection will be taken for our missionary children. Details about the evening and special instructions can be found on the WIC table.

**Grace & Peace Women's Shelter Meal** - Ladies, thank you for those of you who volunteered to provide Christmas meals for 25 homeless women sheltered by Grace & Peace Church. Remember to bring your marked dish in disposable containers ready to freeze by December 13th. See Barb Hoover with any questions.

**Memory Listeners**—will hear our Covenant children (ranging from four year olds to eighth graders) recite their catechism questions and scripture verses next Sunday. Please work with your child this week so that he/she will give a good recitation!

# The Lord's Service at Home

## Advent Season 2009

The English word Advent is derived from the Latin *advenire*, "to come to." Advent has to do with the Lord's coming to us. The Lord *has* come to us (at the birth of Christ), *regularly* comes to us (especially on the Lord's Day), and *will* come to us (bodily again at the end of this age). Advent season, then, is a time to reflect upon all of the ways—past, present, and future—in which the Lord comes to us. Please remember that the purpose of Advent is not to imagine ourselves to be living at the time immediately preceding Christ's birth and so somehow *pretend* that we are waiting for him to be born. It is not time for a spiritual game of "make believe." Neither is the purpose of Advent to think sentimental thoughts about the baby Jesus. There is no real spiritual power in any of this. The purpose of Advent is to *expect* and *pray* for the coming of the Lord.

Although our own hymnal does not separate out Advent from Christmas hymns, a quick glance at any of the traditional Advent hymns will confirm that they petition the Lord to come (see #231, 145-149, and 235-243). During Advent we *remember* his first coming (he kept his promises to his people in the OT) and we *pray* that the Lord will remember his *promises* and come to us again, judging the enemies of the Church and delivering his people from all evil. During Advent season we petition the Lord to come again to us, both now and finally at the end of the age.

Use either the opening corporate prayer or the closing pastoral prayer from the service this morning in your family and/or individual devotions this week. The traditional Advent hymn #145 should be sung all this week.

An Advent wreath can be used to enhance your family devotions, but there is no need to attach any significance to each individual candle. All four candles can be the same color—dark blue or purple. Some modern Advent devotional schemes err in encouraging us to pretend we are living before Jesus' birth. It is best to use the Scripture readings below, reflecting on the way God keeps his covenantal promises. The family should reflect on all the ways the Lord comes to help us.

## Advent Scripture Readings – This Week

Monday, Dec. 7 –	Isa. 4:2-6	Psalm 25	Luke 21:20-28	1 Thess. 5:1-11
Tuesday, Dec. 8 –	Isa. 5:1-7	Psalm 3	Luke 21:29-38	1 Thess. 5:12-28
Wed., Dec 9 –	Isa. 5:8-30	Psalm 4	Luke 22:1-13	2 Thess. 1:1-12
Thursday, Dec. 10 –	Isa. 6:1-13	Psalm 8	Luke 22:14-23	2 Thess. 2:1-12
Friday, Dec. 11 –	Isa. 7:1-9	Psalm 147	Luke 22:24-34	2 Thess. 2:13-17
Saturday, Dec. 12 –	Isa. 7:10-25	Psalm 131	Luke 22:35-46	2 Thess. 3:1-18

# Officers and Resource People

## The Session (Pastors & Elders)

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-842-9329 (O)	Joel Montgomery	314-984-8074
Senior Pastor	314-842-9309 (H)	John Moore	314-984-9869
Rev. Chris Smith (Assoc)	314-962-1974 (O)	Ken Pratt	314-416-1176
Rev. Josh Anderson (Assoc)	314-968-5114	Monte Shields	314-849-0597
Jason Carter	636-257-2441	Brad Wood (Clerk)	636-587-9211
Tom Hanley	314-965-2205		

## The Deacons

Bryan Carter (Chairman)	636-271-7288	Allan Wamsley	636-257-3933
Bill Coller	314-726-6799	Tim Werkema (Secretary)	314-727-6589
Rick Gibbs	636-451-3463	Rodney Weedman	314-846-0210
Daryl Hoegemann (Treasurer)	314-962-4874	George Yoder	314-729-0540
Steve Sterner	314-832-1502		

## Church Staff

Chris Smith	314-962-1974 (Office)	Rev. Tim Weston	314-205-2018 (Home)
Associate Pastor	314-962-1953 (Home)	Pastor to International Students	814-2019 (Cell)
Rev. Joshua Anderson	314-814-5213 (Home)	Rev. Timothy LeCroy (Ast. Pastor)	314-604-2088
Associate Pastor	314-814-5213 (Cell)	Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-966-3523
Paul Jaeggi, Sr.	314-843-7994 (Church)	Melanie Carter (Secretary)	636-271-7288
Asst. to the Pastor	314-631-4394 (Home)	Jennifer Horne (Financial Secretary)	314-225-5036

## Pastoral Interns

Jonathan Barlow	314-429-6648	Scott Pitts	314-974-1364
Justin Donathan	314-583-5355	Dave Salyer	314-216-0019
George Edema	314-221-7486	Steve Sterner	314-420-1229

## Home and Foreign Ministries

Ross Dixon	RUF Ministry (Mizzou)	Blake & Cathy Purcell	Russia
Garrett & Michelle Crow	Santa Clarita, CA	John & Cathy Rug	Chile
Jamison & Laura Galt	New York City	Brian & Jessie Steadman	New York City
Shane & Kim Gibson	New Orleans, LA	Lian & Clara Tombing	India
Bryan Walker	US Army Chaplain	Marcus Toole	Canada
Daniel & Stephanie McKinney	Salt Lake City	Tim & Rosamma Weston	ISI (St. Louis)
Emad & Michelle Mikhail	Middle East	Dan & Becky Young	Mexico

## Prayer Chain Contacts

Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Carolann Van Heest	314-966-5732
-------------	--------------	--------------------	--------------

## Children's Sunday School Program

Ages 2 & 3	Kathy Hoegemann	Grade 4	Joel Montgomery
Age 4	Rachel Keane	Grade 5	Wei San & Dana Hui
Age 5/K	Rachel Wood & Amanda Cone	Grade 6	Jon Barlow
Grades 1	Wes Murrell	Grades 7 & 8	Brookie Moore
Grade 2-3	Donna Carter	High School	Dave Salyer